

**DETERMINATION OF THE MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR  
MASSACHUSETTS RPS CLASS II AND APS**

**Department of Energy Resources  
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The Green Communities Act of 2008 expanded the Massachusetts Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard (RPS) program structure by adding an additional class, RPS Class II as well as a new portfolio standard, the Alternative Energy Portfolio Standard (APS). The Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER) issued emergency regulations in January 2009 which provide rules for these new programs, including the establishment of the minimum standards. In summary, the minimum standards established by DOER are shown in Table 1.

**Table 1. RPS Class II and APS Minimum Standards**

Year	Class II		APS
	non-WTE facilities	WTE facilities	
2009	3.6%	3.5%	0.75%
2010	3.6%	3.5%	1.25%
2011	3.6%	3.5%	1.75%
2012	3.6%	3.5%	2.25%
2013	3.6%	3.5%	2.75%
2014	3.6%	3.5%	3.25%
2015	3.6%	3.5%	3.75%
2016	3.6%	3.5%	4.00%
2017	3.6%	3.5%	4.25%
2018	3.6%	3.5%	4.50%
2019	3.6%	3.5%	4.75%
2020	3.6%	3.5%	5.00%

\* WTE = waste to energy facilities

**Existing Renewable Energy Generation in New England**

RPS Class II is established to promote the continued operation of those existing renewable energy technologies that qualify for the RPS Class II program. Most of the existing generation units eligible for RPS Class II are biomass, small hydro, landfill gas projects, and waste energy (WTE) generation units. Generation units from throughout New England, and even from

adjacent control areas, are eligible for qualification, though only WTE units in Massachusetts will be able to qualify given the requirement for providing state approved recycling programs.

Data received from ISO New England for generation from this set of units from 2000-2007 are summarized in Table 2. The table provides adjustment for the share of biomass that is qualified for, and RECs settled in, the MA RPS Class I program. The data show that the generation from the existing renewable generation units has remained steady over this time frame.

**Table 2. Existing Renewable Energy Generation 2000-2007**

Existing Renewables Generation (non-WTE) in New England										
Generation Units in New England	Summer Rated Capacity (MW)	Winter Rated Capacity (MW)	Annual Generation, GWh*							
			2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Biomass	513	519	3,131	3,075	2,965	3,185	3,175	3,414	3,322	3,697
Hydro	156	297	1,155	790	1,079	1,391	1,354	1,483	1,702	1,280
LFG	9	22	244	229	220	209	193	187	185	178
<u>Adjustment</u>										
Biomass - Class I RECs/ Generation Settled in MA RPS						108	146	285	396	782
Biomass (adjusted)			3,131	3,075	2,965	3,076	3,029	3,129	2,926	2,915
Total Existing RE (non-WTE)			4,530	4,094	4,264	4,676	4,576	4,799	4,812	4,372

Existing WTE Generation in Massachusetts										
WTE Units in MA	Summer (MW)	Winter (MW)	Annual Generation, GWh*							
			2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total Existing WTE	144	223	1,737	1,737	1,718	1,752	1,769	1,753	1,766	1,701

\* data from © ISO New England Inc. 2008

## Determination of the RPS Class II Minimum Standards

DOER decided that the minimum standard for non-WTE existing renewables would be established to provide REC support proportional to its ratepayers' "fair share" of the generation, based on its portion of electricity consumption in New England. As other New England states have adopted RPS programs to support existing renewable generation, this burden is becoming well distributed across the states. Given the additional recycling commitments required for WTE, it is likely that only Massachusetts units will participate, so the minimum standard for WTE generation is based on the full share of MA WTE generation. The minimum standards for WTE and the existing (non-WTE) renewables are derived as shown in Table 3.

**Table 3. Determination of RPS Class II Minimum Standards**

		Generation / Consumption, GWh								
		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	
Total Existing RE (non-WTE)		4,530	4,094	4,264	4,676	4,576	4,799	4,812	4,372	
Total Existing WTE (MA-only)		1,737	1,737	1,718	1,752	1,769	1,753	1,766	1,701	
MA Share of ISO-NE Demand*	39.64%									
MA Share of Existing RE Generation (non-WTE)					1,854	1,814	1,902	1,908	1,733	
MA Share of WTE Generation (100%, MA-only Units)					1,752	1,769	1,753	1,766	1,701	
Total MA Electricity Consumption*					49,834	50,063	51,559	52,529	53,501	
Minimum Standard Determination									Average	
MA RE Share as Percent of MA Load	Existing Renewables (non-WTE)				3.72%	3.62%	3.69%	3.63%	3.24%	3.58%
	WTE				3.52%	3.53%	3.40%	3.36%	3.18%	3.40%
Establishment of Minimum Standards	Existing Renewables (non-WTE)			3.6%						
	WTE			3.5%						

\* considers only MA customers within regulated utility territories that are subject to the RPS program.

### Determination of the APS Minimum Standard

The Green Communities Act in Section 116 establishes a goal for the Commonwealth to meet 20% of our electricity consumption with new renewable and alternative energy generation by 2020. As the RPS Class I minimum standard achieves 15% in 2020, DOER established that the minimum standard for the APS program shall be set to provide the remaining 5% in 2020.

DOER considered the current eligible technologies able and likely to penetrate the APS market over time and established the increasing minimum standard schedule provided in Table 1.